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GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR PC WITH OUR PRACTICAL TIPS

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With identity theft on the rise, data security is more important than ever. Simon Edwards explains how to encrypt your personal data to keep it safe

HOW TO...

Make your own search engine

If you find Google's search results too exhaustive and you want to search just a few websites, you may benefit from creating your own search engine. Julian Prokaza explains how the free service Rollyo can help

If you have specific search requirements and you would prefer to search a handful of websites rather than the entire internet, there is an alternative to tailoring searches with your existing search engine – all you have to do is create your own search engine. This is easily done using a new service called Rollyo, which is free to use.

1 Go to www.rollyo.com and click the Create Searchroll link at the top left of the page; a Searchroll is what Rollyo calls its custom searches. When the page opens, give your Searchroll a name and then enter the list of sites you want to include in the Sources box below, one

per line. Enter only the main domain name for the sites – www.bbc.co.uk rather than www.bbc.co.uk/london, for instance.

The next two boxes – Category and Tags – are optional, but if you do fill them in they could help you get better results. Finally, tick or untick the box next to 'Make this searchroll public' depending on your preference and then click the Create Searchroll button at the bottom of the screen.

2 Since you haven't yet registered for the site, you'll be prompted to do so now. Choose a username and password and enter an email address, then click the Register

button. Enter more personal information on the next screen if you want, or just click the Skip button, and your Searchroll will be created. To use it, click the Start Searching button.

3 A Searchroll page looks like any other search page, but you'll need to choose the Searchroll you want to use from the drop-down list if you have more than one. If you want to perform a standard internet search, select the web Searchroll from the drop-down list. If, while browsing other users' Searchrolls you find one that you think might be useful, click the 'Add to my Rollyo' link to include it in your list of searches.